

Program Notes

U.S. Navy Music Program

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Special Navy Steel Band Issue!



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Biennial Bandmaster's Conference held in Millington

Navy Bandmasters gather on board NSA Mid-South

The Navy's Bandmasters held their biennial conference here at the Navy Personnel Command on board Naval Support Activity Mid-South, Millington, Tennessee April 10-13. The bureau's move from Washington, DC to Millington provided an excellent opportunity for all to view life at Headquarters, and "show-off" the new look of the Personnel Command.

Over the course of the four-day event, the bandmasters were briefed on every facet of Navy Music, including the state of the program, current equipment inventories and upcoming purchases, fiscal matters, recruiting and retention issues, billet structures, and more. Guest speakers Rear Admiral Annette Brown, Assistant Commander Navy Personnel Command, Personal Readiness and Community Support (PERS-6), and Rear Admiral James Hinkle, Commander, Navy Personnel Command, spoke on the importance of Navy Music and how critical we are to recruiting, retention, and morale. Commander Steven Lowry, CNRC Public Affairs Officer, provided invaluable insight on the part that Navy Music plays in recruiting, and how best to liaison with the Navy Recruiting Districts and Recruiting Stations.

In between speakers and briefings, the Bandmaster's also toured the Selection Boards, and actually had "hands-on" time with EMPRS (Electronic Military Personnel Records System). This system is how all selection boards review records - no more microfiche slides.

The conference also provided the perfect forum to discuss issues that will shape the future of the music program. Working groups were created with each assigned a specific task to discuss and recommend a solution. The groups discussed manning and NEC configurations, "C" Schools, retention and recruiting, and a replacement for PARS. The results from the working groups that have signed out have been published in the conference After-Action report, and released to each band.

"The Bandmaster's conference is productive, formative and *informative*. It continues to be the most important event for our community," says Lieutenant Richard Bailey, Deputy Director, Navy Music Program Management Division. New LDO selects also get a chance to meet their peers and be welcomed into the wardroom.

"The conference really provides a *focus* for us as a community," says Lieutenant Commander Mark Hammond, Director, Navy Music Program Management Division. "It allows the leadership of the program to come together and share ideas, brainstorm solutions, and pass information."

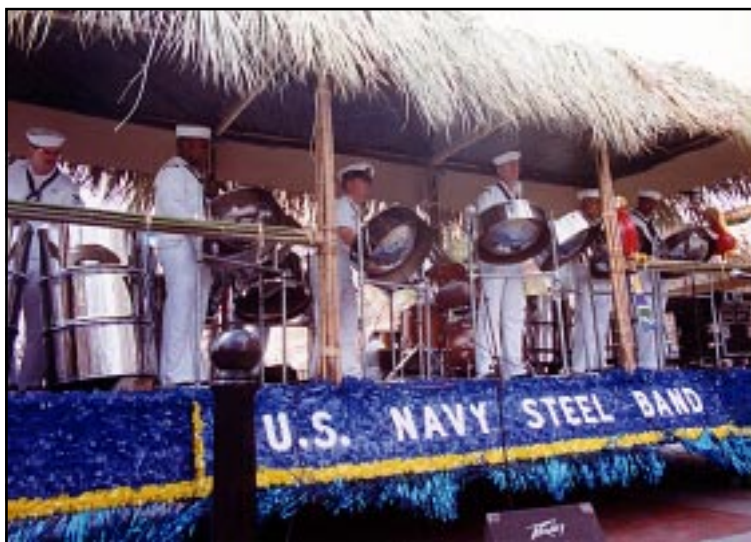
All officers that attended the first conference of the new millennium came away with the same thoughts - it was a resounding success in all respects.

Da Capo



Greetings from Millington...I'd like to defer my column this issue to allow space for the pictures and articles that MUC Parker has put together on the Navy Steel Band. I hope you all have a great and safe summer, and until next time... "Keep the music alive."

LCDR M. D. Hammond, USN
Director, Navy Music Program



Steel Band circa early 90s. Check out the stories on facing page, and page 10

Oops!!

Last issue we listed **MUCS Robert Ferreira** as receiving the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. He actually received the **Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal**.

If you spot an error - let us know so we can make it right!



April, 1964 - The U.S. Navy Steel Band performs at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base in Cuba. See the full story on page 10.



"*Program Notes* is published quarterly by the U.S. Navy Music Program (Pers-64), Navy Personnel Command, Millington, TN 38055-6400. The information contained in this publication is official, and intended for the use, information and career planning of Navy Musicians (MU) serving both afloat and ashore. It is also available on-line at <http://www.bupers.navy.mil/navymusic>. To obtain additional copies or for more information, contact the Editor..."

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The Navy Steel Band

A Proud Tradition closes it's doors



Members of the 1999 Navy Steel Band

Kneeling (L-R): MU2 Ricky Micou, MU2 Leon Alexander. Top (L-R): MU3 Gregory Fritz, MU1 Christopher Koroshetz, MU2 Billy Overton, MU1 Richard Hayden, MU2 Jeffrey Griffin, MU3 Erol DiBona, MU2 Andre Avelino, MU1 Robert "Chip" Armstrong, MUCS Dennis Allard (Leader).

The drums are silent, the music only echoes. For over 42 years the Navy Steel Band thrilled and entertained audiences all over the world, but unfortunately, all good things must eventually come to an end. On October 1, 1999 the U.S. Navy Steel Band closed it's doors forever.

Contrary to media and other misinformed sources, the Steel Band was not closed because of money issues. Decreasing popularity and a steadily declining job count were the driving factors. "Steel bands just aren't as popular as they once were," said Lieutenant Commander Mark Hammond, Director of the Navy Music Management Division. "We weren't making the best use of our assets - the number of jobs and requests just didn't justify the personnel." The billets were redistributed to correct shortfalls throughout the music program.

The origins of the Steel Band can be traced back to the late 1950s. In 1956, Admiral Dan Gallery was in Trinidad during the carnival. Dozens of steel drum bands lined the streets. Admiral Gallery was so taken by them he bought a set and had his band learn to play them. According to Admiral Gallery, the band ended up wanting to play only the steel drums, and became quite proficient on pieces ranging from "Steam Pipe Rhumba" to "Ave Maria." Within a year they had recorded their first album "Pandemonia" and played for thousands at the World's Fair in Brussels. They would have performed for the Pope, but Vatican approval didn't come until the band had returned to the States.

The Steel Band was based in San Juan, Puerto Rico from its creation until 1972, when it moved to its permanent location in New Orleans. The band was a familiar site to the residents of New Orleans, performing at Mardi Gras and around the city. Unfortunately, the small number of performances were not enough to justify keeping the band operating.

The Steel Band's role in the history of the Navy and the Navy Music Program is long and distinguished. They entertained Presidents, Heads of State, Admirals, Generals, and Senators; they appeared on television, at World's Fairs, and traveled all over the globe. With its unique, one of a kind sound, it thrilled millions over its 42 year history. They may be gone, but will always be a part of our proud, military heritage.

Did you know?

Admiral Dan Gallery made the first capture of an enemy ship during World War II by the U.S. Navy since 1815. On June 4, 1944, Task Force 22.3, under his command, boarded and captured the German submarine U-505, and with it a German Enigma code machine. This machine, along with other papers taken from the captured ship, enabled the Allies to decode German radio traffic. U-505 is now on display at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, Illinois.

Fiscal Manager's Corner

MUC John Warren
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On-Line System Getting Closer

Stateside units are going on-line for purchase card payments 22 July 2000. This program has been anticipated from the beginning of the purchase card program and is now ready to go. The overseas units are not included yet but will transition to the new system early next calendar year. Paper statements will not be issued and fax packages to DFAS will be a thing of the past. As the cardholder makes purchases after the cycle date of the 22nd of the month, the purchases will be available for review on the CitiDirect web site. After the 22nd of the next month, the bill will be closed and ready for approval by the Approving Official. Once the cardholder approves the purchases, the AO (Bandmaster) simply logs on the site and approves the purchases then payment approval goes directly to Citibank. Citibank then requests the payment from DFAS. If you are a cardholder you should have access to the web site now, if not, please contact me for log-on information. AOs will need to contact Citidirect for log-on and password information at: 1-888-786-0818. Please log-on the site at first opportunity to ensure a smooth transition to this new system. Their web address is: www.citidirect-gcs.com. Once the page has opened, use the pull-down menu at the bottom of the page and select: Department of Navy/Marine Corps. This will move you to the log-on/password section of the program where you will be asked to create a new password. Remember to call for your personal log-on before entering the site. The last paper bill will be for the 22 June payment cycle. If you have questions, give me a call or drop me an email.

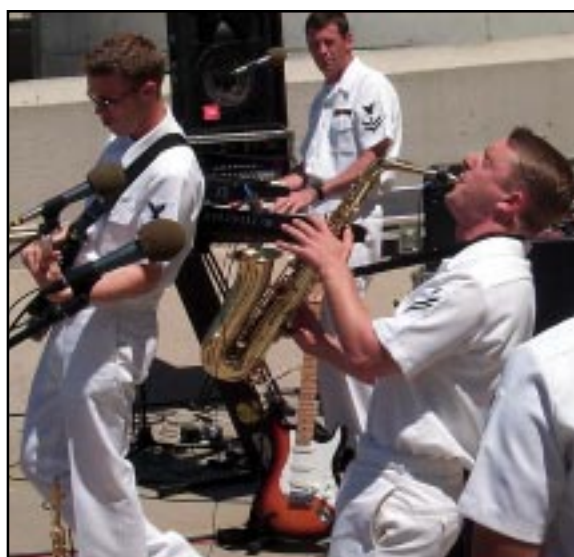
The New "Millennium" of Navy Recruiting

MU3 Kelly Cunningham,
Navy Band Southwest

It's late in the evening; you've moved 3000 pounds of equipment twice today to perform rock 'n roll concerts in two different locations for audiences consisting of teenagers, adults and everyone in between. The first performance was not exactly the ideal venue - a hallway in a high school; the second wasn't the best either, a school lunchroom. You're miles from home and this is what you'll be doing for the next month. This is a typical day for the members of Navy Band Southwest's contemporary music ensemble, *Millennium*.

In an era when recruiting and retention has become a primary focus of all of the armed forces, the Navy Music Program has taken on its share of the process with ensembles such as *Millennium*. Under the leadership of MU1 Dereck Werner, they

are showing high school and college students a different aspect of the Navy. According to JO2 Stan



"Millennium" entertains sports fans at Qualcomm Stadium for the San Diego Padres Military Appreciation Day

Travioli of Navy Recruiting District Denver, Colorado, "Most students aren't aware that the Navy even has

rock bands. They put out a strong message," a message that is getting through to students. Although the official numbers aren't in from the group's recent four-week tour, JO2 Travioli has received a positive response from students, teachers, and his recruiters. He also says that many principals and guidance counselors have requested that *Millennium* return to their schools on future tours. MU2 (SW) Ernie Encinas, of Navy Recruiting Station Albuquerque, New Mexico was also pleased with the results of the trip. "Everybody wants them back! For me - it helped me get my foot in the door. Now most of the students know me by my first name!"

Unlike standard recruiting practices, music is a forum to which most students can easily relate. MU1 Steven Brown, keyboardist, guitarist, and vocalist in the ensemble says that it takes the students a while to warm up to the idea of a Navy rock band. Ultimately, they are pleasantly surprised. Usu-

Continued on Page 14

From the Editor

This issue is dedicated to the Navy Steel Band. I was stationed in New Orleans early in my career, and always enjoyed listening to the unique style of music they made. Be sure to read the article by MUCM Franz Grissom (Ret.) on the Steel Band's early days. He was the second leader of the band, and still plays to this day!

I'm also including quite a few photos of the band that range from the late 1940s through the 90s. If you have old photos of the Steel Band you'd like the Music Program to have for our records, please contact me - I'll be more than happy to scan them in for you and return the originals, or you can email them directly to me.

Also be sure to read "Sound Bytes" this month. It covers the latest virus outbreaks as well as urban legends, hoaxes, and internet fraud. It's a whole new world for criminals to discover. Protect yourself and your computer systems.

Again, we had great input from the bands. If you submit an article and it doesn't get published, please understand it is most likely due to space restrictions.

That's all I have for this issue. I hope you enjoy it. As always, what you liked, what you didn't, errors/omissions, or any ideas on making *Program Notes* a better publication can be emailed or faxed to me at:

p64f@persnet.navy.mil
Fax: DSN 882-2614 or
Commercial
901-874-2614

MUC James Parker

Materiel Manager's Corner

MU1 Duncan Hudson
p64e@persnet.navy.mil

Survey 2000

Thank you all for taking the time to fill out the questionnaire. The results will reflect your time, legwork, and corporate knowledge. Your input is an invaluable tool when deciding what instruments to purchase. I'm still new in the job, but I've found our musicians definitely have opinions about our equipment. Keeping the big picture in mind, we may have to set aside personal preferences to focus on the needs of the entire program. The results of the survey will be published in the next Program Notes.

Gear Issues

First, the good news. We are authorizing more local repairs. How does this benefit you? It means local repair shops can do minor repairs and adjustments on horns with a quicker turn around time. For major repairs and overhauls, of course, the horns will still go back to Fleet Support. It also means the repairs can be made as soon as they are necessary, hopefully extending the lives of the horns. The intent here is to take better care of the equipment. Please notify your Supply Assistants as soon as repairs are needed.

Now the bad news. We *must* take better care of our equipment. Horns have actually shown up at Fleet Support needing cleaning. We also have equipment missing due to inadequate control procedures. We are directed by SECNAV to answer for missing equipment. Your supply assistants are required to fill out the DD 200 or FLIPL in a timely manner. We are committed to providing professional quality equipment. We need you to guard it like it is your own.

Speaking of quality equipment, some new gear will be arriving soon to all the bands. The new tubas finally have cases. The Fender "P" basses have arrived, and we purchased new Roland KC-500 keyboard amplifiers for every band.

E-Mail

If you come across something you think would benefit the program, please e-mail me. I respond to every e-mail, and welcome your suggestions, web sites, or anything else you have.

Navy Music
Salutes
Asian-Pacific
Heritage Month
May

Sound Bytes

MUC James Parker
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"I Love You" Virus Strikes

The internet world was hit hard in May by the "I Love You" virus that rapidly spread around the world. Here at Navy Personnel Command, we were struck pretty hard as well, and most of us in the office received *hundreds* of emails infected with the destructive virus. The virus' payload was launched when the attachment named **LOVE-LETTER-FOR-YOU.TXT.vbs** was executed. Even though the filename had a TXT extension, it was not the LAST extension, which was .VBS. This visual basic script, once executed, caused files with the following extensions to be overwritten with a copy of the virus: .vbs, .vbe, .js, .jse, .css, .wsh, .sct, .hta, .jpg, .jpeg, .wav, .txt, .gif, .doc, .htm, .html, .xls, .ini, .bat, .com, .mp3, and .mp2. Files with extensions of .mp2 and .mp3 were not deleted, but hidden from the user by setting the hidden directory attribute. *Variant G* also overwrites .bat and .com files. The virus then sends itself to everyone in the Microsoft Outlook address book. It can also infect network drives, as well as spread via mIRC by creating a script.ini file in the mIRC program directory, which sends the dropped file Love-letter-for-you.htm to other users in the chatroom.

Currently there are *twenty-nine* variants on this virus, as would-be hackers change a few lines of code and text and release it again and again. To protect yourself, and your computers, simply **NEVER** open an attachment that has an extension of .EXE, .VBS, .BAT, .SYS, .SHS, or .COM. Run any suspicious files through a *current* virus scanner, and check with the sender to make sure they actually sent the file. If you don't recognize the sender, or are unsure, it is safer to delete the email than risk infection.

Hoaxes/Frauds and Urban Legends

Ok. There is NO free trip to Disneyland if you forward the email to 10 friends as part of a new email tracking program being designed by Bill Gates and Nasa or Microsoft. There is *no* money, *no* free software, *no* free trips, or anything else to be given away for forwarding email to anyone. Resist the urge. You can do it. These hoaxes and urban legends are almost as bad as a virus. They may not do any real damage, but they take up bandwidth, clog up email boxes and servers, or even crash them if enough people reply or forward at once.

Spotting a hoax is actually pretty easy. They usually are a variation on a theme, such as the HIV infected needles in pay phone change slots, movie theater seats, or most recently, the underside of gas pump handles. To make them seem realistic, they usually provide names, locations, and even quotes from fictitious law enforcement agencies or personnel. Other well known hoaxes tug at your sympathy: a little boy is dying and wants to have his email forwarded to as many people, or around the world, or whatever before he dies. Hoax. Don't do it. Delete it.

Some other common sense ways to protect yourself include: **NEVER** send your credit card info, social security number, address, or any other personal information via email. If you receive an email that claims you've won a prize, and they need to verify your identity by a credit card number, social security number, etc., beware. It's best just to delete it, but if you must, check with the Better Business Bureau or visit <http://www.fraudbureau.com/> for information or reporting suspected frauds.

One last word about Spam or "junk" email. Usually the sender will include a "reply to this email with REMOVE in the subject line" to be taken off the list. Don't do it. This usually just confirms a valid email address and adds you name to many other spammers.

Do You Practice Safe Computing?

Here are a few tips on keeping your computer safe from computer viruses:

- ✓ Use anti-virus software, and be sure to regularly update the software from the vendor's Web site.
- ✓ Don't open files sent to you via e-mail from unfamiliar sources. Check with colleagues and associates before opening files they send you without notification.
- ✓ **NEVER** open an .EXE, .VBS, .BAT, .SYS, .SHS, or .COM attachment without running it through a virus scan and checking with the sender.
- ✓ Be aware of how viruses operate, and watch for the telltale signs.
- ✓ Don't download anything from unfamiliar Web sites.

Virus Information Sites

<http://www.drsolomon.com/vircen/index.cfm>

<http://www.symantec.com/avcenter/>

Urban Legends/Hoax or Fraud Sites

<http://www.urbanlegends.com/>

<http://www.nonprofit.net/hoax/hoax.html>

<http://www.fraudbureau.com/>



From the Enlisted Detailing Shop

*MUCM Larry McIntyre
p64d@persnet.navy.mil*

Greetings from hot and humid Millington! My article will be short for this edition as MUCM Steve Rawson is on board and we have started the detailer turn-over process. Additionally, I've also been on extended travel during this last quarter. I've been working with NRD Dallas conducting auditions for our program. NCCM Jeff Lynn Chief, Recruiter in Charge, NRD Dallas, and his field recruiters have been extremely helpful finding us applicants. I could really use a volunteer to "step up to the plate" for assignment to this productive area.

I want to thank all of you who responded to my "What's on your mind" article in the previous issue of Program Notes. For those of you who did not get a chance to "spout off", please feel free to send me e-mail @ P64D @ persnet.navy.mil.

"C" Schools

We are accepting requests for the July 01 Enlisted Bandleader/AD and Arranger Courses. Submit requests on a NAVPERS 1306/7 to Commander, Navy Personal Command, (PERS-64) via the Bandmaster.

NOTE: We are still accepting requests for the January 2001 Unit Leader and Ceremonial Conductor/Drum Major Courses.

Well that's really it for now. I'll be saying my good byes as your detailer and moving to another assignment in this office AND welcoming MUCM Rawson in the next issue. Have a great and safe summer Ship-mates!



Online Network for Military Communities

<http://maingate.com/>

Better Business Bureau On-Line

<http://www.bbbonline.org/>

Reseller Ratings

<http://www.resellerratings.com>

Consumer Reviews

<http://www.deja.com>

Consumer Reports

<http://www.consumerreports.org/>

Report Online, Mail, or Telephone Fraud

<http://www.sec.gov/consumer/see fraud.htm>

See the facing page for more links to virus information sites, urban legends, hoax and fraud sites.

SEVENTH Fleet Band Performs at Shimoda Black Ship Festival

The Shimoda Black Ship Festival happens every year in the month of May to celebrate the landing of Commodore Perry and the May 26, 1860 signing of the Japan-American Treaty of Trade and Amity here. This opened the country for trade with the western world for the first time. The festival is a time for Japanese and Americans to come together and celebrate peaceful relations developed over the years.



Lieutenant Dave Hodge conducts the SEVENTH Fleet Band at the Shimoda Black Ship Festival

Our Recent Medal Recipients

Navy and Marine Corps

Commendation Medal



LTJG Michael Grant Naval Academy Band
MUCM Richard Holdsworth ATLANTIC Fleet Band

Joint Service Achievement Medal



TSgt Miles Johnson, USAF CINCSOUTH Band
SFC Kenneth Flythe, USA CINCSOUTH Band

Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal



MU1 Mark Corbliss	Navy Band Southwest
MU2 Timothy Malland	Navy Band Southwest
MU2 Charity Mahannah	Navy Band Southwest
MU3 Owen Willingham	Navy Band Southwest
MU3 Austin Alley	Navy Band Southwest
MU3 Roger Cox	Navy Band Southwest
MU1 Dave Collins	Navy Band Jacksonville
MU1 Mike Whittaker	Naval Academy Band
MU1 David Evans	Navy Band Northwest
MU2 Jamie Tauler	Navy Band Northwest
MU3 Tony Grizzel	Navy Band Northeast
MU1 David Wiley	Navy Band Great Lakes
MU1 Alan Miller	ATLANTIC Fleet Band

Humanitarian Service Medal



LT David Hodge	SEVENTH Fleet Band
MUC(SW) Charles Roegiers	SEVENTH Fleet Band
MU1 George Morris	SEVENTH Fleet Band
MU1 Michael Symonette	SEVENTH Fleet Band
MU1 Christopher Koroshetz	SEVENTH Fleet Band
MU1 Joseph Rundall	SEVENTH Fleet Band
MU1 Gary Clayton	SEVENTH Fleet Band
MU2 Jerome Jefferson	SEVENTH Fleet Band
MU2 Michael Wells	SEVENTH Fleet Band
MU2 Guy Gregg	SEVENTH Fleet Band
MU2 Dave Natseway	SEVENTH Fleet Band
MU2 Jeremy Bustillos	SEVENTH Fleet Band
MU3 Mary Ehram	SEVENTH Fleet Band
MU3 Jeremiah Garwick	SEVENTH Fleet Band
MU3 David Cobbel	SEVENTH Fleet Band
MU3 April Richardson	SEVENTH Fleet Band
MU3 Benjamin Behnken	SEVENTH Fleet Band
MU3 Ronald Pitts	SEVENTH Fleet Band

NATO Medal



MU1 Jane Hoffman	CINCSOUTH Band
MU1 Inge Rhodes	CINCSOUTH Band
SSgt Joel Daniel, USMC	CINCSOUTH Band
MSgt David Parker, USAF	CINCSOUTH Band
MU2 Max Fryar	CINCSOUTH Band
MU2 Rufus Spearman	CINCSOUTH Band
Sgt Kurt Zemaitaitis	CINCSOUTH Band
MU2 Lynn Jordon	CINCSOUTH Band
MU3 Benjamin Kelly	CINCSOUTH Band
MU3 John Madison	CINCSOUTH Band

Bravo Zulu to CINCSOUTH Band



Awarded the Joint Meritorious Unit Award

Congratulations!

To Our Newest Lieutenant JGs



LTJG Michael Grant
LTJG Raymond Penland

Navy Band New Orleans
Fleet Support Unit

To Our Newest Petty Officers



MU1 Steven Brown
MU1 Vincent Burrell
MU1 Andrew Cartwright
MU1 Roberta Haworth
MU1 Glenn Persen
MU1 Inge Rhodes
MU1 Charles White
MU1 Gary Clayton

Navy Band Southwest
Naval Academy Band
School of Music
Navy Band Great Lakes
Fleet Support
CINCSOUTH Band
CINCSOUTH Band
SEVENTH Fleet Band



MU2 Christopher Cornette
MU2 Trae Cummings
MU2 Erik Desantis
MU2 Kirsten Fodness
MU2 Wilfredo Inocencio
MU2 Lynn Jordon
MU2 Gresh Laing
MU2 Julie Livengood
MU2 Robert Marquis
MU2 Kevin Morris
MU2 Steven Sanders
MU2 Scott Shepherd
MU2 Trevor Spaulding
MU2 Richard Varela

ATLANTIC Fleet Band
ATLANTIC Fleet Band
SIXTHFLT Band
Navy Band Southwest
Navy Band Great Lakes
CINCSOUTH Band
ATLANTIC Fleet Band
ATLANTIC Fleet Band
Navy Band New Orleans
Navy Band Northwest
ATLANTIC Fleet Band
PACFLT Band
Navy Band Jacksonville
Navy Band Jacksonville



MU3 Robert Booker
MU3 Ellysia Boyd
MU3 Armando Cepeda
MU3 Adam Clements
MU3 David Gibson
MU3 Erin Goslin
MU3 Franklin Raasch
MU3 William Wade
MU3 Jeffrey Waldon

ATLANTIC Fleet Band
Navy Band New Orleans
SEVENTH Fleet Band
Navy Band Northwest
ATLANTIC Fleet Band
Navy Band Northeast
ATLANTIC Fleet Band
Navy Band New Orleans
Navy Band Mid-South

Promoted to Staff Sergeant

SSgt Joel Daniel, USMC

CINCSOUTH Band

Promoted to Master Sergeant

MSgt David Parker

CINCSOUTH Band

The Navy Steel Band's Early Years

MUCM Franz Grissom,
USN (Ret.)

*Article first printed in
Pan-Lime in 1993
Reprinted with permission*



In the forty-three years the Navy's steel band has been in existence, it has had ten or more leaders, numerous changes of personnel, and has undergone many transitions, including moving from San Juan, Puerto Rico to New Orleans. This article is about the formative years, 1957 to 1964, and the three men who led the band through that period.

Most steel band historians have heard the story of how Admiral D.V. Gallery sent his Navy bandsmen to Trinidad to learn steel band, but few have delved into his motivation for doing something that was, at the time, rather daring.

"Admiral Dan" Gallery was a genuine war hero, having in World War II effected the capture of a German submarine, the U-505, with an aircraft carrier, the first capture of an enemy ship by the U.S. Navy since 1815. He also was a writer and novelist of note, and the man who introduced Little League baseball to

Puerto Rico. A cultured man, he was the antithesis of the traditional Navy admiral. He listened to classical music in his home, attended concerts and theater, and was friends with people like Pablo Casals, Harry Belafonte, Bob Hope, and Herman Wouk. He was also something of a showman, and sometimes quite controversial in his speeches and writings, and never missed an opportunity to put himself and the organization he led in the spotlight.

In 1956, Gallery was on an inspection tour of various military bases in the Caribbean, and happened to be in Trinidad at carnival time. Invited by the governor to review the carnival parade from the stands at Queens Park, he heard calypso and steel band for the first time. To quote him at the time, "the music just got inside me and shook me up." After his return to Puerto Rico, he wasted no time in talking to his Navy bandmaster about his experiences, and

asking him, "can we produce steel band music here in Puerto Rico?"

Chief Musician Charlie Roeper was a fairly typical Navy bandleader. A piano player by profession, at this point he had been in the Navy over twenty years, and was well satisfied to be running a traditional Navy band at a sleepy Naval base in Puerto Rico. The hours were good, and the demands few. That was soon to change.

Roeper told the Admiral that he didn't think his men could learn steel drums, and the Admiral told Roeper that they could and would. In spring of 1956, Roeper and his boys were sent off to Trinidad to learn pans.

In 1941, the U.S. and Britain signed a 99-year lease for a large tract of land at Chaguaramas, in the northwest of Trinidad, and the Navy built a seaplane base that operated submarine hunter-killer planes during World War II. The base has since been turned over to Trinidad, but in 1956 it was still in operation. During the war much of the gasoline and lubricating oil for the aircraft was brought in by ship in 55-gallon oil barrels, and in the 1950's there was a section of the base that had thousands of empty barrels stored in giant stacks. In a way the Navy contributed to the advent of steel bands in Trinidad, as many of the barrels used to make early drums came from the Chaguaramas base.

The Navy band from Puerto Rico stayed at the base while on their "learning" trip, but hung out all day in Ellie Manette's back yard. Ellie built the first pans for the band, and was compensated by being able to get barrels from the base. He and his Esso Steel Band also gave the aspiring panists their first lessons. Wisely, Roeper and others with piano and mallet skills learned lead tenor pan



President Eisenhower and RADM Gallery inspect the steel drums



August, 1959, Waikiki Shell, Honolulu, Hawaii. In Hawaii for a week long statehood celebration, the Steel Band performed with the Honolulu Symphony, Rosemary Clooney, and Jose Ferrer.

(then called ping pong), the tuba player was assigned to basses, the trumpet and sax players got the second pans and cello pans (then called tune booms.), and the drummers were assigned to play hi-hat, (called the "cutter") and brake drum. At the time steel bands were using "thumpers", which were half-barrel, two-note, non-tuned instruments, played like a bass drum. The player traditionally put his left hand on the notes to further muffle and make them non-tonal. Also used were half-barrel basses, which produced a low-resonance note, somewhere between the thumpers and modern-day basses.

The Navy Steel Band would not be in existence today were it not for Ellie Mannette. The Navy Steel Band and the whole steel band community owe a great debt of gratitude to this truly distinguished pioneer of the art. He has remained a friend of the Navy Steel Band, the Navy and the United States for all of his life, and besides welcoming us in his home in Trinidad on our many visits, he also traveled to Puerto Rico on many occasions to build drums and teach.

Back in Puerto Rico, Roeper and the band started to work on the band in earnest, as they had the Admiral breathing down their necks. They had brought back some calypsos from Trinidad, the most memorable being Jean and Dinah, the year's winning carnival song, composed by Sparrow, the year's Calypso King. Belafonte was at the height of his popularity, and his sanitized versions of calypsos and other Caribbean songs, with their simple melodies and easy chords, were especially adaptable to early learners on steel drums. Roeper was a fair arranger for military band, and he contributed Colonel Bogey and Stars and Stripes Forever done as meringues. Within a few months the band was doing gigs, and after a year in business they were ready for some heavy-duty engagements. First, however, several things happened that changed the band's direction and made it into the really outstanding organization that it was to become.

In October of 1956, Thomas Oliver Knight arrived at the band. Ollie was a music major in college, was capable of playing a variety of instruments, playing them all well. He came into the band as a drummer, but also played piano, vibes, marimba, baritone sax, and was a singer and arranger. He took

Continued on next page

Navy Steel Band "Firsts"



✓ First steel band to write and read steel band arrangements and to play music especially written for steel band.

✓ First steel band on U.S. national television.

✓ First steel band to do extensive U.S. national tours.

✓ First steel band to tour South America.

✓ First steel band in Hawaii

✓ First steel band to record using steel band instruments mixed with other instruments (see recording New Paths For Steel Band using concert grand piano, dance drums, vibraphone, string bass, and pennywhistle on some cuts.)

✓ First steel band to use electronic tuning devices.

✓ First steel band outside Trinidad to engage Ellie Manette to build steel drums for them.

✓ First steel band from outside Trinidad to go to carnival in Trinidad, and other Caribbean islands to gather music.

*Early Years**continued from page 11*

to lead pan like a duck to water, and eventually was able to play an astonishing cascade of notes during ad-lib solos. Other notable additions to the band at that time were Hugo Bailey, a tuba and string bass player with symphonic background who eventually played the fastest steel band basses anyone had ever heard, and danced the lowest limbo that anyone had ever seen. Also Hyland Miller, a genius on any reed instrument who became the true utility infielder by being able to play well on any steel band instrument, and George Hamill, who led the seconds and cellos sections into playing as nearly like Trinidad steelbandmen as possible. Hugo, Hyland and George all left the Navy at about the same time and along with George's brother, formed a steel band that played at Disneyland and was a mainstay at the ski lodge at Sun Valley, Idaho for many years. All except Hugo are now deceased, but Hugo is still hanging in there at Ketchum, Idaho, where he makes pans and has recently formed an all-female steel band. Ollie Knight did eight years in the Navy and now lives in Richmond, Virginia where he is still active with steel bands, and does a one-man show where he plays pan with recorded backgrounds.

In June of 1957, after a year of



General Colin Powell, then Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, sings with the Navy Steel Band (1993)

playing mostly local jobs in Puerto Rico, with a few side trips back to Trinidad, the band hit the big time. In a few short weeks, they played at the Brussels Belgium Worlds Fair, The Ed Sullivan Show and at the White House. They were still playing fairly basic music, and were short on charts, but they had arrived, and made a big splash doing so.

In late June, after return to Puerto Rico, Roeper became ill and was flown back to the U.S. He eventually was given a medical discharge from the Navy and settled in Charleston, where he and his son taught steel band in local schools

and formed a professional steel group. He passed away a few years later.

Orders went out for a replacement for Roeper, and in July 1957, I was tapped for the job. I had been recently promoted to Chief Musician, and at the time was assistant leader of the Commander Sixth Fleet Band stationed at Villefranche, France. At the time I had been in the Navy for seven years and was a graduate of the Navy School of Music bandmaster's course. I am a percussionist, which I am sure had some bearing on the assignment.

I arrived in Puerto Rico in August 1957, and immediately started working with the band. I had a lot to learn, having no experience with either steel drums or Caribbean music, although I had followed closely the Afro-Cuban and Latin trends as performed by Dizzy Gillespie, Stan Kenton and Tito Puente. I had done some dance band and concert band arranging in prior years and I looked forward to writing charts for steel band.

Ollie Knight had been the interim leader of the band before my arrival, and I found the band in good shape musically, other than the aforementioned paucity of charts and challenging music.

Along with Ollie and others I set to work arranging suitable material,



The Navy Steelband, circa 1984



1957 - Navy Steel Band, Puerto Rico. MUC Franz Grissom (left), leader

and over a period of years had a book that contained 50 to 60 arrangements that were rehearsed and available to perform at any given time, and up to 100 more in reserve. We did full scale arrangements of classics like Poet and Peasant Overture and Ave Maria, did light classics with a Latin beat, and a large number of American standards, Puerto Rican, South American and Caribbean songs. We went to Carnival in Trinidad every year and recorded the top calypsos and steel band arrangements, and upon return to Puerto Rico transcribed them off the tape and performed them for the next year until the new ones came out, and many times for years after. Among other things, we were expected to be the band for the

Admiral's social functions, and as a result had a book of steel band cocktail music. We did soft tinkling fake book tunes with maracas and guiros and featured several vocalists. We developed a system where we could have 16 panists playing from lead sheets, and it would still sound like an arrangement. With lead pan and seconds alternating melody, the other pans would divide up the chords so they were voiced correctly and had good voice-leading. The seconds would usually strum a pattern as set by the best player, and the others would follow, although most Latin tunes or American tunes with Latin backgrounds had pretty well-set and recognized patterns. The cellos sometimes strummed, but often, played arpeggios and bass figures. The bass players became expert at deciding which inversion of the chord to use. We didn't just do these things off the top of our heads. We spent hours and hours with chord progression books written for guitar and piano learning how to voice all the different kinds of chords in all keys.

We also did dances, and in Puerto Rico that meant plenty of meringues. On tour in the U.S. we often played theaters, and had a show that feature the band's music plus acts such as singers, a pennywhistle player, the Limbo Dance, and at one time, a comedian. We sometimes featured combo instruments, and steel drums with a standard rhythm section. We were often booked by the Department of Defense Public Affairs Office. We were combined with the Blue Angels, The Navy Parachute Team, the Navy Trampoline Team, and various other acts such as the Naval Academy Choir for air shows.

At a performance at the New York World's Fair in 1964, a gentleman approached the band after a performance and said that he had a youth steel band, and had brought the players over to hear us, and wanted to know if we were interested in hearing their band. We said yes, and after piling about 20 people into 3 cars, we went to his house in Queens, where he had the band set up in the basement. They played for us all right, and nearly blew us away, for this was none other than Murray Narell, and the kids were Andy and Jeff Narell and their friends.

While in Puerto Rico I also organized the Shriners Steel Band, which as of a few years age was still doing Shrine conventions in the U.S.

After almost six years in Puerto Rico I got promoted out of the job and was assigned to the Navy band at Treasure Island in San Francisco. My steel band days were not over, however, as I had purchased a full set of pans from Ellie Manette prior to leaving the islands.

BIOGRAPHY

Franz Grissom retired from the Navy in 1980 as a Master Chief Musician and from the Times Journal Company of Springfield, VA (Navy Times) in 1994 as their Western Regional Manager. He is an active percussionist and a member of the Percussive Arts Society, the National Drum Association, the International Association of Rudimental Percussionists, the Navy Musicians Association and the Association of Retired Military Musicians. He has performed with the Henderson Symphony, The Las Vegas Civic Symphony, the University of Nevada Concert Band, the Las Vegas Symphonic Band, the Silver State Bagpipe Band and the Highland Bagpipe Band and is a published arranger and composer of percussion music. Mr. Grissom currently plays professionally with the One Eyed Jacks steel band, and with Helen Magee and is the leader of the civic steel band Pandemoniacs. He and his wife live in North Las Vegas, Nevada.

*New Millennium**Continued from page 4*

ally, while the band is packing up they are flooded with eager students asking questions about the Navy and the Navy Music Program. *Millennium* represents the professionalism of the Navy with an energetic and youthful appeal.

They key to *Millennium's* success lies in their versatility. So far this year they've performed in high schools and public venues all over the Southwestern United States. They've been as close as National City, CA and as far away as Boulder, CO with plans for a trip to Wyoming in the works. They've performed for 1,750 students and educators on a day cruise aboard the USS CONSTELLATION. They perform for everything from Navy Ball dances to change of command receptions. MU1 Brown explains that in order to appeal to such a wide variety of audiences they have to be prepared to play everything from Glen Miller to Stone Temple Pilots.

Lieutenant Gary Seitz, the Director of Navy Band Southwest, is obviously very proud of the job *Millennium* has been doing. "This is the first, best thing that Navy Music can do for the Navy right now — contribute to the recruiting effort! And *Millennium* is doing a fantastic job. Since they returned from their last tour, recruiters all over the southwest are begging to get them back for an encore performance in their area. And we're going to do our very best to give them that support. The band has built itself a great reputation over the past year and a half — and we're going to keep them as busy as we can!" MU1 Werner echoes the Lieutenant's enthusiasm, "Literally, we've accomplished more in the last 6 months with *Millennium*, than ANY Navy ensemble I've been involved with since I joined in 1992!"

With more to come in this unprecedented journey, *Millennium* is well on its way to becoming the next big thing in Navy recruiting. They continue to generate interest in the Navy wherever they go. Not only are the recruiters pleased, but more importantly *Millennium* has made a lasting impression on the students they are aiming to reach. MU1 Werner expresses his Navy pride saying, "*Millennium* is one of the finest groups I've ever had the privilege to perform with and lead. You just can't put a price tag on how good that feels. To go onstage KNOWING, you're gonna "bring the house down!"



A young Croatian boy conducts the SIXTH Fleet Band in Zadar, Croatia. Zadar sustained heavy damage during the Croatian independence war of 1992. The band's presence and acts of good will towards the people of the war torn city will long be felt in the furthering of our friendship with Croatia.

FYI

School of Music Staff & Instructor Vacancy Notices

Vacancy notices for instructors and staff at the School of Music are now posted on the web at:

<http://www.wnt.cnet.navy.mil/som/notices.htm>

Tri-Care Dental Rates Drop

The rates for dental premiums will change effective with the July 2000 premium deductions (August 2000 coverage). The rate for single dependent enrollment will decrease from \$8.53 per month to \$7.88 per month and the rate for family enrollment will decrease from \$21.33 to \$19.70 per month. Members who sign up for the plan on or after July 1, 2000, will be enrolled at the new rates. No transactions are required to effect the new rates for existing participants. DFAS will automatically adjust pay accounts to reflect the new premiums, which will appear on the July 2000 Leave and Earnings Statements.

Program Notes Submissions

**Deadline for Articles,
Awards, Retirements, and
New Parents:
September 15**

Our Sailors of the Quarter

NAME	1st Quarter 00
MU3 Kelly Cunningham	Navy Band Southwest/Navy Region Southwest
MU3 Heather Knepper	Navy Band Mid-South
MU1 Kenny Oliver	Navy Band Mid-South
MU3 John Madison	CINCSOUTH Band
MU2 Dave Gentkowski	Navy Band Jacksonville
MU3 Patrick Hill	Navy Band Jacksonville
MU1 Karl Schultz	Naval Academy Band
MU2 Rich Lindberg	Navy Band Northwest
MU3 Kevin Morris	Navy Band Northwest
MU1 Richard Walker	Navy Band New Orleans
MU3 Shane Alcock	Navy Band New Orleans
MU3 Steven Pendel	Navy Band Northeast
MU1 David Wiley	Navy Band Great Lakes/Naval Training Center
MU3 Thomas Klaver	Navy Band Great Lakes/Naval Training Center
MU2 Joseph Hardner	ATLANTIC Fleet Band
MU3 Julie Ciarfella-Livengood	ATLANTIC Fleet Band

Our Sailors of the Year

NAME	Band
MU1 Duncan Hudson	Navy Band Mid-South
MU3 Rachel Cornette	Navy Band Mid-South

Our New Parents And Newborns

Kai Levantonio Natseway, born 7 May 2000 to MU2 Dave and Kristine Natseway
Carl Jacob Mahannah, born 13 May 2000 to MU2 Harold and MU2 Charity Mahannah
Aaron Michael Tucker, born 24 May 2000 to MU3 David and Kamie Tucker
Nöelle Ava Borrelli-Boudreau, born 27 May 2000 to MU2 Joel and Sean Borrelli-Boudreau

Transfers to the Fleet Reserve and Retired List

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Command</u>
MU2 David Pino	0005	Navy Band Northeast
MU2 Thomas Weller	0006	ATLANTIC Fleet Band
MUC Tod Lucia	0006	U.S. Navy Band
MUC Joel Lewis	0007	Naval Academy Band
MU2 Kenneth Meeks	0007	Naval Academy Band
MUC Mark Leshley	0008	Navy Band Northwest

To each of these Sailors we wish you "*Fair Winds and Following Seas*," along with the appreciation of the entire Navy Music Program...



Important Dates In Navy History

April – June

7 April - U.S. Navy planes sink Japanese battleship *Yamato* in South China Sea (1945)

12 April - Congress passes H.R. 89 to reorganize and enlist the members of the *U.S. Naval Academy Band* – the Navy oldest continuing musical organization (1910)

10 April - *Thresher* lost (1963)

10 April - *Biennial Bandmaster's Conference* held for the first time on board Navy Personnel Command in Millington, Tennessee (2000)

14 April - *Samuel B. Roberts* hits mine in Persian Gulf (1988)

18 April - “Doolittle’s Raiders” (B-25s) launched off the *Hornet* (CV-8)

19 April - Explosion of *Iowa*’s turret kills 47 (1989)

— April - *Navy Band Newport* established (1974)

27 April - CAPT Duerk’s selection for Rear Admiral announced – the first woman promoted to flag rank (1972)

28 April - CAPT Gravely becomes the first African-American selected for Rear Admiral (1971)

30 April - Navy Department established (1798)

4 May - *Battle of Coral Sea* began – First carrier vs carrier sea battle (1942)

17 May - *Stark* hit by two exocet missiles in Persian Gulf – 37 killed (1987)

— June - *Navy Music Program Management Office (PERS-64)* relocated to Millington, TN with the Bureau of Naval Personnel’s move from Arlington Annex, Washington, DC to Naval Support Activity Memphis (1998)

2 June - Destroyer *Frank E. Evans* struck and cut in half by Australian carrier *Melbourne* (1969)

4 June - Battle of Midway begins – Four Japanese carriers were sunk, but only one U.S. carrier lost (1942)

9 June - *George Washington* is launched – first SSBN launched at Groton (1959)